(c) The product technology for Gugulipid has been licensed to Cipla on a non-exclusive basis and technology can be released to any other firms, if interested.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. Application for marketing Guggulu was received by Drug Controller (India) from only-the Director CDRI and the drug was cleared for marketing after its clinical trial was favourably completed in the country.

Assistance to shipping industry

1773. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE ANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to assist the shipping industry which is suffering from losses and becoming sick;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) whether there is a proposal to take over the sick Shipping Companies on a temporary basis by the Shipping Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and financial institutions/banks have set up a new company called Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India (SCICI) which would provide financial assistance to the shipping companies in the private sector on the basis of the viability of their proposals. In the case of sick shipping companies, the matter would be considered on a case to case basis and suitable rehabilitation packages would be evolved by the SCICI if the company was found to be potentially viable. Financial assistance would be provided broadly on the rates hitherto being charged by the Shipping Development Fund Committee.

(c) No, sir, At present there is no such proposal.

Payment of laying tram-tracks to West Bengal Government by Metro Railway Authorities

1774. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Metro Railway Authorities have not paid the cost of laying tram-tracks to the West Bengal Government in the Bhawanipur area in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has decided to move the court for the realisation of the amount from the Metro Railway Authorities; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) In terms of the Project Report for Metro Railway Calcutta, which was accepted by the West Bengal State Government, tram services are not required to be restored on the corridors which would be served by Metro Railway and no payment is due to the West Bengal State Government on this account.

(c) No communication to this effect has been received from the State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Appointment of private security agencies by metro railway authorities in Calcutta

1775. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Metro Railway authorities in Calcutta have decided to appoint private security agencies for manning its security wing;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and